On the line

A Working Class Newspaper

10¢

Monday, February 25, 1974

On strike at Doehler

The 140 workers at Doehler Canada Limited in Guelph have been on strike since January 20th. There is no way of guessing how much longer the strike will go on because workers have made no progress in getting the company to negotiate a new contract since the old one expired on December 9th. Doehler is an American firm that manufactures parts for cars and washing machines. Officials of the company will not meet with leaders of U.E. Local 553 until the union agrees to accept a three-year contract and to drop its demand for a cost of living clause. The workers can charge the company with bargaining in bad faith, since Doehler officials take

continued on page 4

On The Line must become a working class newspaper

In three and a half years On The Line has published 24 issues in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. During that time the politics of the paper have been a mixture of two quite different class views of society. On the one hand, there's the view that the system of monopoly capitalism has to be destroyed in order to solve the problems facing the large majority of working people. It is the tradition of the working class movement which is carried forward in this view. On the other hand, there's the view that some reforms here and there are all that's needed. This tradition of reforms is that of small, independent producers—the petty bourgeois class—who only want capitalism to 'make a place for them'. On the line must begin to distinguish clearly between these two class views if it's going to develop into anything more than a confusing and disorganizing influence in the struggle for socialism.

There are definite tendencies in the world which support each of these class views. The working class view is upheld by workers and intellectuals who desire to serve the majority of people and help organize the working class as the ruling class in the society. The petty bourgeois class view is supported by those who try to confuse things in order to seize

Continued on page 2

continued from page 1

leadership over the working class movement. These 'misleaders' want only to advance their own power and prestige in capitalist society at the expense of the whole working class movement. But the vast majority of workers are quite sick of being mislead. The most conscious workers want to build the working class movement so that capitalism can be placed in the museums where it belongs.

The working class is the only class which can bring about a society in which there are no classes, where the interests of the large majority of people are taken into account and in which there is no exploitation of man by man. The class of monopoly capitalists which presently holds power in every aspect of Canadian society cannot solve the problems of the vast majority of working people precisely because it is the cause of these problems. This class, which presently controls the government, the courts, the factories, cultural institutions and over 99 per cent of the media has the single aim of maximizing profits for itself by exploiting the working class and all working people to the utmost in order to realize this end.

The working class is becoming more and more militantly opposed to the rule of the monopoly capitalists and the 'problems' of inflation, unemployment and open suppression of workers struggles are adding fuel to this growing fire of opposition. It is this movement of the working class and its allies which On the Line is kin to.

The staff of On The Line is taking up the practical and political work of building a working class newspaper in Kitchener. We intend to develop the paper by exposing the politics of capitalism and assisting the day-to-day struggles of workers to defend their wages, fight for better working conditions, fight for job security and against unemployment. In this way we hope to contribute to the work of organizing the working class as a class. The blight of capitalism must be removed from this society and a new society built with the working class organized as the ruling class.

Cambodia:

Resistance grows to Lon Nol regime

The strike of 12,000 Phnom Penh primary and secondary school teachers has been going on since December 12 in Cambodia. The teachers strike follows the strikes by thousands of Phnom Penh workers and comes in the midst of rising prices and worsening living conditions. These things are driving the people to stronger opposition to the U.S. puppet government headed by Lon Nol. The puppet regime has refused to meet the demands of the teachers.

There is much support for the teachers from various segments of Cambodian society. Workers, students, monks and other people in Phnom Penh have shown their support. Educational people in other provincial capitals, still under rule by the puppet regime, have also sent their messages of support.

Educational workers from the liberated areas of Cambodia have met with the striking teachers and discussed how to organize united action against the Lon Nol government. At the same time large numbers of office workers have been demanding pay raises and are threatening to rise up against the traitorous Lon Nol regime.

Guelph

'No excuse' at ITT-Guelph

The U.S. monopoly capitalists have always used the Canadian working class as a source of cheap labour and they think nothing of using 'no excuse' to delay giving higher wages to workers in their Canadian subsidiary plants. This is exactly the case in the strike of 329 workers at two plants owned by the giant ITT corporation in Guelph. No negotiations for a new contract for the workers were going on after eight weeks of strike, and a representative of the workers' union said there was no reason given why these negotiations had been ended except that ITT was unwilling to meet the demands of the workers.

The main demand of the workers is for a living wage and the offer which ITT has made would not even maintain the present living standard of the workers. The base rate of pay in the two plants now is $2.76. The capitalists have demanded that the workers accept a three-year contract with a few cents increase each year. One worker explained that if they accept a three-year contract with say 24 cents the first year and 30 cents an hour increase in each of the last two years they would be getting 8.5 per cent, 10 per cent and 9 per cent increases. With inflation running at 9.5 per cent and every indication of getting worse, they'd actually end up with less real wages than they have now.

The company has just landed a big contract with the Canadian government to supply postal mechanization equipment and it is quite evident that they intend to reap maximum profits from this contract by attempting to increase the exploitation of the workers in their plants. Seventy-five per cent of the workers in the Guelph plants are women and nearly all the women are in the lowest paying categories of jobs. Workers on the picket line explained that the company had tried to split the unity of the strikers by offering the lowest categories a few pennies more than some higher categories, but the women had seen through this and voted to strike for better wages.

It is this trend of unity in opposition to the monopoly capitalists which is the main trend in the working class movement today. Workers are beginning to see through the splitting tactics of the capitalist class and stand together against exploitation. It is this trend which is the basis of working class consciousness. As the unity of workers develops on new and higher levels the rule of the monopoly capitalists will be undermined, and the day when the working class will rule the society comes closer.

Brewery workers on their own

This weekend in Winnipeg the remaining members of the International Union of United Brewery Workers met in convention. Last November in Cincinnati the then international officers unsuccessfully attempted to merge the union into the ranks of the Teamsters Union. With the support of the Canadian Labour Congress the 9,000 Canadian members who refused to accept that merger have carried on business as usual in Canada using the structure of the International Union.

At the Winnipeg convention the constitution was amended so as to make it relevant to the present operations which are concentrated in Canada. The members unanimously approved amendments which will allow the Canadian locals to operate autonomously. The members elected officers, boards and other officials to replace those who joined the ranks of the Teamsters in Cincinnati. The new president is Peter O'Dowd of Toronto who led the Canadian group as provisional president during the last few months. William Dodge, secretary treasurer of the Canadian Labour Congress, addressed the Convention and renewed the encouragement and promises of support of the Congress.

The International Union is now under the control of the Canadian locals who were represented at the Convention. The continuing union retains its bargaining rights and assets and intends to continue to organize and to grow within the main stream of Canadian labour.

Claude Thomson, the Union's legal counsel, is optimistic about the possibility of resolving outstanding legal disputes with the Teamsters Union without the necessity of resorting to the courts and Labour Boards in Canada.

Doehler strike

Continued from page 1

the position that workers must accept its terms **before** negotiations can begin. They refuse to discuss either a two-year contract or a cost of living increase.

Basically, the workers are asking for better pay. Some current rates are: primary—$2.79 an hour; first trim—$2.99; die casting—$3.10; with a ten cents an hour shift differential for evening and night shifts. The seventy-five cents an hour increase they are asking would bring them into line with workers doing the same work in other parts of Ontario and in branches of the same company that are located in the States.

The main issues in the strike are wages and the cost of living clause. The workers are also angry about the working conditions. The air is filled with smoke in the plant and the factory is generally filthy. Minor burns are commonplace among the workers who handle hot lead. Another complaint was the lack of a morning coffee break and the fact that the half-hour lunch break was not paid. The workers on the picket line said there was no reason why they should have to stay in the plant for 8½ hours. When there were three shifts, the morning shift went from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., the afternoon shift from 3:30 to midnight, and the night shift from midnight to 8:30 a.m. There was a one and a half hour overlap between the night shift and the day shift and workers said that during this time people were falling over each other and there was nothing to do—but the company wouldn't consider giving them a half hour paid lunch.

Workers at the Doehler plant won their first contract through the United Electrical Workers in 1970, but only after a six-month strike. At that time the company was called Lakeshore Die Casting and was owned by a local capitalist. Since then the plant has been sold out to the U.S. corporation, National Lead. Like so many other U.S. monopoly corporations, National Lead is trying to take advantage of the cheap labour supply in Canada. It changed the name of the company to Doehler Canada Ltd., but it continues the policy of maximum profits through maximum exploitation of the workers.

On the line is produced voluntarily by members of the On the line staff

Divide & Conquer

"Divide and conquer" is the motto of capitalists the world over—very much including the new regional municipality of Waterloo. In the recent paper released by the Regional Planning and Development committee, entitled 'Growth', the new level of government has taken a definite stand in favour of the continued exploitation of women workers as cheap labour in the region.

Page 15 of the growth paper has the following statement: "It will be interesting to see if the wide range of present manufacturing...can quickly change to meet new needs and demands and at the same time provide an opportunity for more feamle employment." Under the hoax of providing more "opportunity" for women the region is showing its support for capitalists increasing their profits by increasing the use of women as cheap labour. The reason for the need for more "female" employment is simply because women can be forced to work for less pay than men.

The growth paper goes on to expand on the consequences of this policy: "As the trend for more females to work continues and as opportunities for employment increase in commerce, offices and government there will be a lessening demand for new male labour from outside the Region." Needless to say there will be a lessening demand for male labour from inside the region as well. The entire growth paper also ignores the fact entirely that the increasing number of women who work for wages is a result of the fact that one wage earner is no longer able to support a family in most situations—women are being forced to work and the unfortunate woman who has to support a family herself is hardly able to survive at all.

The policy of the Regional government thus becomes quite clear—in order to ensure the continued high levels of profits for the capitalists, the regional government will try to create a contradiction between women and men workers. By playing one group of workers against the other regional government will also attempt to ensure that the capitalist class is 'free' to continue its exploitation of working people.

The capitalist class depends on the exploitation of the large majority of people in order to generate profits for the small minority. As long as this class continues to rule the society they will create situations which encourage workers to fight one another instead of fighting the source of all their problems—the capitalist class itself. By using the threat of unemployment (in this case for working men) the capitalist class, through their Regional Government, is trying to heighten the contradiction between men and women workers—a contradiction which the capitalists created in the first place.

United States oil monopolies such as Exxon, Mobil Oil, etc. have posted huge profits in 1973. Exxon reported an increase of 59 per cent in its profits over 1972, while Mobil posted a gain of 47 per cent. Cities Service and Union Oil of California both reported gains over 50 per cent, while Texaco reported a 45.4 per cent increase. It is quite evident that the big oil companies are not suffering at all during a period of so-called shortages.

Indians fight goverment

Indians in the Mackenzie Valley area of the Northwest Territories are struggling against the colonial administration of the Canadian government. Faced with the stiff resistance of the Indians, the federal government has been forced to modify its position and agree to the bargaining demands of the Indian people.

On January 19 of this year it was announced by Jean Chretien, federal Indian Affairs Minister, that negotiations were to get underway soon for the settlement of Indian land claims in the Northwest Territories.

In 1969 there were about 6,200 Indians living in the NWT (these are the latest figures we have). They claim title to about 400,000 square miles of land in the Mackenzie Valley area. The Supreme Court of the NWT ruled that the Indian claims are valid, but the federal government has done nothing to implement the court ruling and is actually trying to negotiate its way out of the situation. The government wanted to delay settlement as long as possible in order to avoid giving the Indian people their rightful heritage.

The real reason behind the government inaction on this question was revealed by Chretien himself in a secret memo to the cabinet (which was accidentally disclosed in November, 1973) in which he wrote: "It is clear that the natives had the right to use and occupy the land and have lost it. With that loss they are deprived of an entire way of life." The secret document also pointed out that the settlement of native land titles in Canada would cost far in excess of the $3 billion which the government of the United States paid to the Indian people there. It would also entail handing over huge areas of land.

The announcement that the government is willing to begin negotiations on some of the Indians' claims is not to be seen as a change in the nature of the federal government. This government has always been formed in the interests of the Canadian capitalist class and has always followed a policy of selling out, to foreign imperialist interests, the resources and labour of all working people under its domination. This includes the native Indian 'colonies' of Canada. If the government wants to settle some claims now, it is because its interests are served by doing so. In fact, in announcing that negotiations were to begin with some of the Indians in the Mackenzie Valley, Chretien admitted that the government was concerned that if Indian titles were not settled soon, pipeline investors in the huge Mackenzie Valley consortium from the United States "might be scared off." Chretien added, "We don't want to risk these consequences."

It is important to remember the context of this statement by Chretien. A few days previous to the announcement that negotiations on Indian land titles would begin, the Canadian government was informed that a Japanese consortium had made a "firm offer" to put up $6 billion for the development of the Athabasca tar sands. The Japanese Energy Development Corporation had made this offer to two Liberal cabinet ministers previous to January 19. In addition, United States capitalists are also interested in a large investment of this type in the tar sands.

The Canadian government isn't interested in a just settlement of the land claims of the native people, but rather a settlement in which as little land as possible is given to the Indian people so that as much land as possible can be given to the foreign corporations who will exploit the land and labour of the Canadian people to make even bigger profits for themselves. To conclude the deal as fast as possible the Canadian government is demanding that the negotiations follow the agreements in Treaties 8 (1899) and 11 (1921) which limited every family of five to one square mile of land.

However, the fact that Chretien and the federal government are forced to negotiate the just claims of the Indian Bands is a victory for the native people in Canada. They will win further victories in their long struggle to defend their hereditary rights and land titles by stepping up their struggle.

NDP and the railway workers

The role of the NDP in the recent railway strike was to pretend in words to support the rights of the workers but to oppose them in actual practice. One of the main questions that came up in the course of the struggle was the 'Right to Strike.' The right to strike is a fundamental right of workers which has been fought for and defended with their blood for the last 100 years. The right to strike is the only sure way that workers can oppose the attempts of the capitalist class to encroach on their wages, standard of living, working conditions and job security.

Did the NDP ever once stand with the railway workers in defence of this right? NO! As David Lewis said in parliament on August 30: "I agree there should be a law sending these people (the railway workers) back to work and resuming railway operations, but that law should be 'just' with regard to the workers..." Mr. Lewis is piously bleating to the capitalist parliament to be 'just strikebreakers'.

In fact, the NDP gave public support to the Liberal government and promised not to obstruct them even before parliament was called into session to 'deal' with the railway workers' strike.

During the election campaign last year, Mr. Lewis helped prepare public opinion for the Liberal Party by saying that the strike, as a form of economic warfare, must be ended if it endangers the "welfare of the community". What is this "welfare of the community" which Lewis talks about? In Canadian society, there exists two very definite and separate communities—those are the community of workers and the community of capitalists. Making use of empty talk, Mr. Lewis is shamelessly trying to trick the workers into thinking that 'what is good for the slave-master, is good for the slave'.

The experience of the working class shows that without the right to strike the capitalists and their governments have us completely at their mercy.

When parliament was called to session in the railway strike, the NDP, who portray themselves as 'friend of the workers', voted in favour of the openly anti-labour bill on the first and second readings. Their opposition to the legislation came up only on the third reading when they were confident that it would pass. And even then they refused to oppose it on the basis that it is the fundamental right of workers to strike but rather on the basis of a few extra pennies. How does this make them different from the Conservatives or Social Credit who were also hollering "Not Enough!"?

The NDP pretends to be the friend of

the workers because they ask for more money than any other capitalist party. In this way they worm their way into workers organizations and cause untold damage from within.

It is becoming more and more obvious that the NDP and their theories of 'social democracy' are nothing more than new clothes for a capitalist political party. The slogan 'Party of the working class' which made the NDP what it is today, is as hollow and meaningless as Trudeau's 'Just Society'.

Fighting Wimpey-Ronto

The following article is based on an interview with Gil Floyd, an initiator and leader of the Wimpey-Ronto Homeowner's Association.

How did this association begin?

When Gil and his family moved into the house he had bought from the Wimpey developers in the Victoria Hill subdivision on November 30, 1972, he found there were a number of deficiencies in the house that he tried to get corrected. When he went to the job superintendent and told him about these deficiencies, the superintendent would always say that they would do something about them and then they never did. Gil noticed that every time he and his family went to visit someone in their subdivision, all they ever heard were complaints about these houses. These complaints started to permeate the whole life of the subdivision. They became the major topic of conversation when neighbours got together and they became the major subject of conversation within Gil's own home.

On April 30, 1973, Gil went to a meeting of the Victoria Hills Recreation Organization. Just as the meeting was about to draw to a close, Gil got up and explained some of the problems he was having with his house and then asked whether there were other people with similar problems who would like to work with him on seeing what could be done about them. A number of people indicated their interest and this group decided to call a meeting of all persons in Victoria Hills Subdivision with complaints about the houses built by Wimpey. All three levels of government were contacted. Lawyers, consumers associations and others were contacted for information and advice. Some local government people were invited to attend the meeting. The Kitchener Alliance Church agreed to let the people hold the meeting in their building.

Before the time for the meeting arrived, it was also learned that the homeowners in the Ronto development in Victoria Hills and Arrowhead Place had similar kinds of problems so leaflets about the meeting were also distributed in those two developments.

The night for the meeting arrived and the people were jammed in shoulder to shoulder right into the downstairs. As Gil described it, "There was shouting and screaming and cursing and swearing and telling of all kinds of tales and guys were bringing folders of letters they had written to Wimpey and Ronto for the past year and they were holding them up there, shaking them and reading these things off."

Organizers learned that Wimpey was a world-wide development firm with major stockholders being members of the ruling class from England. The Ronto development firm was controlled by Ron Todgon, the president of Chrysler of Canada.

The participants agreed that an itemized list of complaints was necessary and that they must look at ways to exert pressure on these two companies. The association had established its base of support and its major methods of working.

Would Ronto and Wimpey recognize this association?

As soon as the developers got word of the beginning of this association, they immediately sent out a man to listen to complaints. While over 200 people had attended the initial meeting, only 143 homeowners actually listed complaints when this association drew up an itemized list.

While the company trouble-shooter promised that Wimpey would deal with them as a group, the company didn't back this and would not accept a total list of complaints from the homeowners, but insisted on dealing with each one individually.

This is a common tactic used by capitalists to weaken their opposition. As long as they can keep people divided, individual people can't hurt them. But they fear the power of collective action. Their refusal to deal with the association is an attempt to make the homeowners feel they are individual people with individual problems rather than a large group of people with a common problem who intend to deal with the problem together.

What was the nature of the complaints?

A lot of the complaints were things such as leaky roofs, leaky basements, doors falling off, spaces between the angelstone and windows, and no insulation next to windows and around wall receptacles.

Another major problem was the grading of the lots. When the developers came, they flattened out the whole area. Maple trees with a diameter of six to seven feet were flattened out. The basements were dug and then the lots were left as they were. No attempt was made to grade the lots in accordance with city requirements, some places being as much as four feet out.

Were these houses guaranteed?

Buyers purchased a UDAC warranty on the house they were buying. It turns out to have less value than toilet paper.

UDAC is the Housing and Urban Development Association of Canada. Their local representative is Harold Freure, a well-known developer. When their office in Toronto was contacted by Gil, it turns out they accept all companies in the development business into their association and have no minimum standards but "claim" to try to upgrade housing standards in general.

It's set up for the developer rather than the buyer of a house built by a developer.

Why did Gil get up at that first meeting?

"I got so tired of all the complaining...and all the sacrifice we had made in years past so we could have our own house someday...and all the conflicts this caused in our own home." It was "a move of desperation."

What has Gil learned as a result of this experience?

Gil learned that many companies and business firms that advertise about having your best interests at heart actually have their own best interests at heart.

One example is the real estate agent. Gil claims that when he and his wife talked to a real estate agent, they considered him a friend who would help them find the house of their dreams. He has learned differently. The real estate agent gets a commission from the seller of the houses, not from the people who buy them. He gets paid when a customer signs a contract to buy a house. He works for the developers and not the buyers.

Another example is the banks and mortgage companies. They also project an image of being for the house-buyer. But they exist for their own interest which coincides with the developers. They pay the developer so he can get his money immediately for the house he built. When contacted by the residents' association, none of the banks or mortgage companies which carried the loans of the homeowners would become involved in the situation. They were clearly on the side of the developer.

Gil did learn to trust himself. He learned that those in positions of authority and prestige are human beings and that he is just as good as any of them. He realized that he could not get anywhere by being afraid of those in authority. He had to face them and confront them and he learned that he could do that.

Gil learned that the people he could trust and those whom he had to trust were caught in a similar situation to himself. Alone they were all powerless, but as they realized their common interests and problems and as they worked out tactics for common action, they realized that things could be done.

Regional government

Good for profits

Jack Young, chairman of the new Regional Government, asked the question: "So, you've wondered why we need regional government."

A lot of people are asking the same question and perhaps the first question we should ask is: Who says we need it? To quote Jack Young again, "...the Ontario Government has in recent years undertaken a program of restructuring local government which includes the creation of regional government in areas such as ours to replace the former municipal and county system.."

Quite simply it is Premier Davis who says we need regional government. It strengthens the power of the provincial government at the local level. The small-time capitalists at the local level who have always controlled municipal government are being squeezed out by the large, foreign-controlled monopolies that Davis represents. In the recent paper, "Growth" distributed by the Regional Department of Planning and Development one possibility for growth which they consider is "the emergence of large scale operations which swallow up many small seperate industries." Regional government might be similarly described as the emergence of large scale operations which swallow up many small seperate local governments.

The greater centralization of government and industry is more profitable for the capitalist class. The paper on 'Growth' states this explicitly: "...With the economies which result from a greater size, (they can) decrease the total labour force demand."

However, the purposes of centralizing government derive mainly from the use of tax money. Where other areas have adopted regional government, taxes have gone up—not right away, of course, because the increase is covered over by widely publicized "transitional grants" from the provincial government. But taxes have risen in other areas under regional government and the people have been told that this is because of "higher administrative costs". The plan is offered in the first place as a way of saving money by preventing the duplication of services on the part of several local governments, but results in raising taxes to cover supposedly greater administrative costs.

Actually, the provincially administered 'transitional grants' are used to provide a basis for the increased exploitation of working people. These grants, paid for by the provincual government (which is our taxes anyway), are used to finance studies on how and where our regional tax money will be invested. And once the regional government is well established we'll be paying higher taxes to the region so the monopoly capitalists behind Davis will have more money to invest in their own class interests.

Regional government is a centralization of the political structure which corresponds to the centralization of capital into fewer and fewer hands. This whole process is characteristic of the welfare state of monopoly capitalism in which the capitalist class is increasingly reliant on government capital in order to increase its profits. This reliance comes in the forms of increased exploitation of the tax collecting and tax spending system to provide 'free' services to the large monopolies and to provide government investment in areas which are most profitable to the capitalist class.

When Jack Young, appointed by Premier Davis as head of the new regional council says: "So, you've wondered why we need regional government"—it's quite evident that the 'WE' he's talking about only includes the five per cent of the population who presently rule the society—and not the 85 per cent who will only be more exploited by the new system of regional government.

Oil Company Executives 'search for profit'

Executives of ten top oil companies who remained anonymous confessed in interviews recently that federal pricing policies had brought them to adopt a policy of refusal to produce U.S. domestic oil supplies and to invest their money overseas "where the investment opportunities were good". The oil industry could have produced more crude oil within the U.S. in recent years but decided against it because it wouldn't have been profitable.

No reform of monetary system

The january 17 and 18 Rome meeting of the Committee of 20 finance ministers from a number of capitalist and developing countries, held for the purpose of discussing reform of the capitalist monetary system ended without having made any substantial progress. The post-war capitalist money system, with the U.S. dollar at its core, has utterly collapsed as a result of the deepening financial crisis of the capitalist world and repeated monetary crises. The money market of the capitalist world has been in chaos. The committee of 20 was charged by the International Monetary Fund with working out a blueprint for monetary reform.

Because of differences among the major capitalist countries and between these countries and the developing countries, no agreement has been reached and the monetary reform has had to be postponed.

The tasks of the conference were hampered by the attitude of the U.S. delegation, which refused to discuss monetary reform before discussing the question of oil prices. The U.S. attitude was sternly refuted by the Arab countries and other developing countries, who said that the postponement of reform of the monetary system on the pretext of oil price increases was inconceivable, and that moreover, the oil price increases responded to market pressures.

The lack of results from the Rome meeting came at the same time as gold prices were reaching record levels in the money market of Western Europe. The chaos in the capitalist money market is due to the fact that all the major capitalist countries are facing a gloomy year this year.

Hospital worker's demands.

Six thousand Toronto hospital workers are now negotiating a new contract with hospitals in Toronto. The hospital workers are demanding wage increases of $1.14 an hour to bring them up to the level of wages paid to Toronto Board of Education janitors. On January 21, the workers' union, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, met with officials from Queensway Hospital to ask for $1.18 an hour more, as Queensway workers now receive four cents less an hour than other hospital workers. Apart from wages, the workers are demanding an increase in the number of paid holidays to eleven, up to one and a half days of sick leave per month, a ban against contracting out work now performed by regular staff and certain other benefits. There are eleven hospitals in all affected by the negotiations.

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Jim Campbell
20 Fairview Ave.
Kitchener, Ont.

US trade surplus

The United States recorded a large trade surplus in 1973. The total favourable balance was $1.68 billion. This surplus contrasted with the large deficit of $6.36 billion in 1972. Capitalism grows unequally in the world. While the U.S. trade position and dollar seem to be recovering, the trade position position and currency of Japan and Great Britain have hit all-time lows. In order to continue making profits, each group of capitalists must try to wipe out the other.

On The Line
P.O. Box 2305
Station B
Kitchener
(742-8289)